

HISTORY
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In 1970 the A.A.G. Committee on Archives and Association History was established. Since that time the Committee has arranged numerous sessions and workshops concerning the history of geographic thought, facilitated the establishment of an official archival repository, supported Maynard Dow's "Geographers on Film" project, advised on the U.S. bio-bibliography contribution to Geographers, and otherwise sought to foster and encourage study of geographical thought. Now we introduce a History of Geography Newsletter.

The purpose of this Newsletter is to provide an outlet for articles, summaries, reports of events, reviews or notices of literature et al. relating to the history of geographic thought. If you have something of this genre which you feel would be appropriately placed in this publication, please submit same to the editor. It is anticipated that this Newsletter will be published occasionally, but nevertheless not infrequently.

Recognition for help received in connection with the printing of this Newsletter is extended to Sina Tafao and Jeanne Douglas of the University of California at Los Angeles who typed very much of the manuscript, (arranged by Gary S. Dunbar) and Richard J. Fabish and Irving N. Leveton (Southern Connecticut State College), who respectively supervised the printing and negotiated the graphics of this publication.

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LINDLEY MILLER KEASBEY (1867-1946)

by

G. S. Dunbar

"Keasbey . . . [was] the best-trained economic geographer in the country [1908]" (Alvin Johnson, Pioneer's Progress, 1952)

Despite his slender bibliography and truncated academic career and, indeed, his virtual seclusion for almost the last three decades of his life, there has been considerable interest in Lindley Keasbey in recent years, particularly because he was the mentor of Walter Prescott Webb (1888-1963), the eminent Western historian whose strong environmentalism geographers have long admired but have not dared to imitate. In his presidential address to the American Historical Association in 1958 and in a notable paper read at the meetings of the Association of American Geographers in 1960, Webb gave Keasbey the highest praise and credited him with providing the basic plan of Webb's classic The Great Plains (1931). Two recent biographies of Webb have added to our knowledge of Keasbey, as has a book recording the struggle for academic freedom in the University of Texas. A Master's thesis at Southwest Texas State University--"On the Hither Edge of Free Land: Lindley Miller Keasbey and the Evolution of the Frontier Thesis" by Mazie E. Mathews (1973)--provides the fullest account of Keasbey's life. Ms. Mathews was also responsible for the institutionalization of Keasbey's papers, which now reside in the University of Texas Archives.

Who was Lindley Keasbey, and why should he be given even a fleeting glance by historians of geography? He was born into a wealthy family in Newark, New Jersey, 24 February 1867, took his B.A. at Harvard University in 1888, and then moved to Columbia University for the M.A. (1889) and Ph.D. (1890) degrees in political science. After studying under August Meitzen for a year in the University of Berlin, he took the degree of Doctor of Political Affairs at the University of Strassburg in 1892. His dissertations at Columbia and Strassburg both concerned the diplomatic history of the Nicaragua Canal scheme. From 1892 to 1894 he was Professor of History and Political Science at the University of Colorado, teaching courses in economics and history, including a course on the colonization and settlement of the United States. In 1894 he moved to Bryn Mawr College to replace his friend Woodrow Wilson, whom he had met when Wilson taught in a summer session in Colorado. As Associate Professor of Political Science at Bryn Mawr (Professor after 1901), Keasbey taught undergraduate courses in Economic Geography, History of Political and Economic Theories, and Theoretical Sociology, as well as graduate courses in American Commerce, Economic Development of America, American Economic Geography, and Social Evolution, all of which had a geographical flavor.

In 1901 Keasbey published two papers on economic geography in the Political Science Quarterly--"The Study of Economic Geography" and "The Principles of Economic Geography". In the former paper he defined eco-

conomic geography as the "descriptive study of the natural resources of the earth and their application, through the processes of production, distribution and exchange, to the satisfaction of human wants . . . Economic geography is, in short, the natural correlative of economic psychology, the two together constituting the completed science of economics." Keasbey's view of economic geography as second only to economics in commercial education is very interesting because of parallel developments in other American universities at the turn of the century. The Department of Geography in the University of California, Berkeley--the oldest separate department in the United States--began in 1898 as an element in the new College of Commerce. Emory Johnson, who began teaching a course in geography in the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1894, concentrated on his original specialties of commerce and transportation after 1903, but fortunately he had trained J. Russell Smith to carry on the work in geography. The 1890s and the first decade of the 20th century were critical years for the professionalization or institutionalization of geography in American colleges and universities, although the story is mostly one of failure to put the teaching of geography on a firm footing. As Gregory Tobin has said in his recent biography of Walter Webb: "Social scientists of Keasbey's generation were virtually free to make their own systems and their own methodology as they saw fit. For most of them, the broader problems were resolved or alleviated by the emergence of virtually independent disciplines--especially sociology, political science, and economics, with geography bringing up a rather uncertain rear."

Although Alvin Johnson has said that Keasbey "had studied economic geography with Friedrich Ratzel at Leipzig and was the first American scholar to bring over his ideas of Geopolitik", there is no proof to substantiate any part of that statement. Keasbey published an interesting review of Ratzel's History of Mankind in the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in 1897, but no closer link between the two scholars has ever been demonstrated. Incidentally, Ratzel's best known American student, Ellen Churchill Semple, proposed Lindley Keasbey for membership in the newly created Association of American Geographers in 1905, but the nomination died for lack of support from William Morris Davis, who wielded supreme power in the organization.

To the relief of the president of Bryn Mawr, who did not like Keasbey's socialist leanings, he departed for the University of Texas in 1905, where he was Professor of Political Science until 1910, when he became Professor and Head of the new Department of Institutional History. This department, which was separate from the Department of History, was especially created for Keasbey, partly to ease him out of Political Science. At the University of Texas Keasbey taught geography under such rubrics as Economic Geography and Demography, Commercial Geography, The Geography of Eastern Civilization, and The Geography of Western Civilization. These courses were strongly environmentalistic and left an indelible impression on an undergraduate student named Walter Prescott Webb. It is interesting that Keasbey modified his environmentalism--but only after he left teaching and writing behind and was no longer in a position of influence--but that Webb imbibed it deeply and irrevocably. In 1931, when writing to Webb to congratulate him on the publication of The Great Plains, Keasbey disavowed his earlier

philosophical stance in the following terms:

Anyone with any sense can see at once that the environment is essentially passive and could not possibly act as anything further than an efficient cause of something already formed or in the process of forming. In our haste we are so apt (historians especially) of taking post hoc for propter hoc. That was my error, which I passed on to so many students.

Webb paid no heed to this advice, and, indeed, if he had, his reputation might not have increased so greatly as it did in the last three decades of his life. Webb has often been called a Turnerian historian, but he took pains to demonstrate that he had no real connection with Frederick Jackson Turner and that he derived his "Turnerian" ideas directly from Keasbey. Interestingly, Keasbey had been influenced by the Italian economist Achille Loria (1857-1943), who was cited in Turner's original frontier essay.

Although Keasbey was a popular professor and was even nominated for the presidency of the University of Texas in 1915, he was fired for his anti-war activities in 1917, and he never again held an academic position. Unfortunately, the teaching of geography was discontinued after Keasbey's departure, and his Department of Institutional History subsequently re-emerged as the Department of Anthropology. The Department of Geography in the University of Texas was not established until 1949.

After trying his hand at several jobs in New York City, Keasbey went to Arizona for his health in 1925 and stayed there for twenty years, raising dogs, fruits, vegetables, and a little cotton on a small farm near Tucson. In April 1945 the Keasbeys moved to Whittier, California to be with their daughter and her family, and it was there that Lindley Keasbey died on 17 September 1946.

Although we cannot claim for Lindley Keasbey any significant role in the development of American academic geography, it is interesting to speculate about what might have been. We can see his importance in the intellectual formation of Walter Prescott Webb, and Webb in turn has influenced historical geographers, but what would have become of Geography in the University of Texas if Keasbey had continued after 1917? What would have happened if he had remained at Bryn Mawr College? What if he had moved in 1905 to Columbia or Pennsylvania or some other powerful university in the "Eastern establishment" instead of going to Texas? Looking back, we can see many lost opportunities for Geography in the early part of the century, and Lindley Keasbey's life is especially interesting as an example of the importance of individual personalities in the nascent period of the social sciences.

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From the author of the above article, Gary S. Dunbar, Geography in the University of California (Berkeley and Los Angeles), 1868-1941, is available at \$2 per copy (postpaid).

THE PHENOMENOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENTALISM OF WATSUJI TETSURŌ

by

John E. Chappell, Jr.

In recent geographical theory, phenomenological philosophy has come to be associated not only with an alternative to mechanical, quantified logical positivism, but also with a form of escape from external, objective reality, into the processes of the human mind--most especially, the process of the creative intentionality of perception, whereby even the registering of external sensations on the human mind is regarded from the viewpoint of human creativity rather than of environmental influence. Like all other popular theoretical viewpoints of recent years, the phenomenological approach has thus in its own way de-emphasized the influence of the external environment and placed in center stage human or cultural causation.

Therefore it becomes truly remarkable to consider the work of the Japanese philosopher Watsuji Tetsurō (1889-1960), who in 1935 published what is probably the most comprehensive geographical statement ever written anywhere from the point of view of phenomenological philosophy: Fudo, variously translated as "Climate and Culture" or simply as "A Climate" (Watsuji, 1961). This work entitles Watsuji to an important place in the history of ideas about mankind's relationship to the natural environment. In it Watsuji used the approach of phenomenology not to escape environmental influences but to affirm and elaborate them. Evidently it has hitherto been totally ignored by geographical philosophers in the West. This brief introductory study cannot do it full justice, but at least it can perform the function of making others aware of Watsuji's thought.

Even apart from geographical theory, Watsuji Tetsurō ranks as one of the greatest philosophers in Japanese history. His three-volume Ethics (1937-49) is termed "the most systematic philosophical work that Japan has ever produced" (Britannica, 1974, v. 10). He is said to have tried to combine the Eastern moral spirit with Western ethical ideas. He wrote on Nietzsche and Kierkegaard and introduced the ideas of existentialism into Japanese thought. And he went beyond this, to the related, even more abstruse school of philosophy known as phenomenology, and became a careful student of Martin Heidegger.

In 1927-28, Watsuji travelled to Europe, and in the summer of 1927 he found himself in Germany, reading the works of Heidegger. He then came around to the conviction that the phenomenological method which Heidegger applied to the dimension of time in his famous work Sein und Zeit (Being and Time) could be applied successfully also to the dimension of space. He interpreted human interaction with the influences of the natural environment, especially climate, as the unfolding of a grand theme of creative phenomenological perception: "It is in climate that man apprehends himself" (Watsuji, 1961, p. 8). He put together a series of lectures on this theme, given in Japan in 1928-29, and assembled this series for publication in 1935 (revised in 1943). A translation into English was carried

out by Geoffrey Bownas and published just after Watsuji's death, as A Climate, in 1961; the same translation was re-issued under the title Climate and Culture in 1971.

Watsuji's system of environmentalist theory, closely based on his personal experiences during his travels of 1927-28, recognizes three chief climatic regions--not necessarily a comprehensive categorization for all the earth, but simply one that encompasses Watsuji's own observations: "monsoon", "desert", and "meadow". Each region produces its own distinctive type of culture.

The monsoon climate is marked above all by humidity; in Watsuji's scheme, not much is made of the dry winter monsoon. Although China and Japan lie within the monsoon climatic region, the type example is to be found closer to the equator, in the South Seas and India (p. 20). In much of China and Japan, the hot, humid weather typical of these tropical monsoon regions occurs only in the summer. The typical cultural characteristics of monsoon civilizations are submissiveness, gentleness, and resignation; but because of the seasonal variations, and in parts of China also the aridity, Chinese and Japanese cultures are not typically passive, as are the cultures of monsoon regions farther south.

Indian culture, on the other hand, is marked by intuition and imagery rather than by reason; cluttered detail rather than by perspective and clarity; complexity rather than by simplicity. The invader from the north and not the Indian himself has displayed aggressiveness, whereas the various periods of subjugation experienced by the Indian "apparently turned his fulness of feeling into a cringing sentimentalism" (p. 37). Yet in China, though the power of the European is openly flaunted, the Chinaman himself remains strong, energetic, and largely devoid of the feeling of being oppressed.

The desert climate, which Watsuji experienced in various Middle Eastern countries, is of course marked primarily by aridity. Watsuji sensed at once in Aden, as he first entered this region, that the traveller "understands dryness not as a determined atmospheric humidity, as indicated by thermometer or hygrometer, but as man's way of life" (p. 44). Contrasts in the desert are marked: living things and human culture apart from nature's desolation; friends who help in the struggle for survival as against enemies who vie for control of a particular oasis; a passive response to the life-giving flow of the Nile's waters in contrast with the ferociously aggressive conquests of Islam; and "a dryness in...thinking and a penetration of observation and of judgment in practical matters", as opposed to "firmness of will" even to the point of "bestial savagery" (p. 58). The great influence of the desert on world culture is felt mainly through the chief monotheistic religions, which reflect the duality of both submissiveness and aggressiveness typical of desert cultures: in the Jewish religion, for example, submissiveness was adopted in relations with the Deity, but aggressiveness in relations with competing peoples on earth (p. 51).

One gathers that aggressiveness is really more characteristic of desert peoples than is submissiveness; or at least the submissiveness is of a different sort than that of the monsoon areas. Watsuji argues that the

desert dweller must remain firm and willful in order to survive nature's challenge; "he can afford no meek docility." (p. 50) Evidently the passive response of the Nile irrigator represents an exception among desert peoples, even as the Nile itself is an exceptional river.

Finally, Watsuji finds the open, tender grasslands of the Mediterranean area, somewhat artificially replicated by cleared woodlands in northern and central Europe, to be the most characteristic aspect of nature in his "meadow" region of temperate climate. Here the grasses, which flourish mainly in the winter, are tender and succulent to animals, rather than coarse and unassimilable as is so much of the monsoon region's "weedgrass", which must constantly be fought off by enterprising farmers. There is "lenience and rationality" (p. 74) in this meadow environment; this helps to explain why natural science developed most elaborately here. Especially in Greece, and in Italy south of the Po Valley, do these influences prevail; "nature is docile, bright, and rational in Greece," and after human beings became aware of their power to control nature, they evolved a powerful culture in which "nature was humanized because the Greek felt at one with her." (p. 79) Competition and jealousy among peoples in Greece was a means of creation too; men felt the constant desire to better themselves and not be subject to despots. Thus not only rationality but also democracy evolved from the "docile" meadow environment, largely through its potential to be easily managed by human beings.

Watsuji defines certain varieties within the European meadowland climate, such as in Italy, with its climate "a degree more rational than Greece's" (p. 96); it offered more forests to be cleared and a greater measure of human control over the land as a result. Also, in Germany one finds an unusual degree of winter cold, and yet Watsuji believes that this does not meaningfully reduce the docility of nature. The cold "enlivens rather than shrivels. It stimulates and entices a spontaneous energy that sets man on the road to resisting and overcoming the nature that is exemplified by this cold and leads him to render this nature docile." (p. 100)

In such passages one must wonder whether Watsuji has not confused docility with stimulation, and also confused attributes of nature with those of human culture. His analysis of the meadow climate seems in general much weaker than those for the other two regions, probably reflecting his very limited experience in this very complex region. He claims that the farmer's work in Greece "is never menaced by climatic vagaries" (p. 77), whereas in fact severe droughts do trouble the Mediterranean area, and may even have been the prime cause for the downfall of ancient civilization. And yet he overestimates the extent of dryness for Europe as a whole, even saying that the "gentle and slight" rainfall means that there are very few installations for draining rainwater (p. 105)--ignoring the many swamps and marshlands, and not realizing that a completely new kind of plow, the moldboard plow, was designed for north-western Europe precisely so as to deal with the frequent problem of waterlogged lowlands, by creating numerous small drainage ditches. (McNeill, 1974, p. 66-67)

Watsuji's work presents many interesting analogies to ideas of other thinkers, mainly in the western tradition. At times he reflects the influence of such other thinkers explicitly, as in the case of Heidegger. His view of climate as reflected in human culture is highly suggestive of Heidegger's concept of the "dasein", of man's distinctive mode of being, or being-in-the-world, as opposed to isolation from the world. (See Entrikin, 1976--one of the better commentaries on phenomenological philosophy by a geographer.) Heidegger writes of the world mainly in terms of human culture, and so does Watsuji, in his ethical theory, which is based on subsuming one's individuality into the needs and consciousness of the group, of society and even of all humanity. Yet Watsuji also extends his conception of the individual's environment to include the natural environment, in a way that Heidegger did not.

Although Watsuji offers subjective impressions of the world, unquantified and not formulated into scientific laws, clearly he is reaching out for the objective truth; it is not his goal to offer his personal impressions themselves as ultimate truth, but to use them to reach ultimate truth. This becomes clear in his discussion of feeling the cold: he points out that not only "I", but "we", in common, feel the cold (p. 4-5); it then becomes an objective basis for discussion. In this sense, Watsuji excels most contemporary geographical phenomenologists (such as Relph, 1970) in realizing that it is indeed the goal of phenomenological philosophy to reach objective truth, rather than to provide a subjective alternative to positivistic thinking (i.e., logical-positivist thinking). As Spiegelberg explains, phenomenology differs from most other philosophies not in preferring subjective approaches, but instead in keeping a relatively open mind as to what is subjective and what is objective (Spiegelberg, v. 2, p. 668). (I rather suspect that an awareness of environmental influences follows naturally after a commitment to objective reality, in any philosophical scheme.)

Other important thinkers reflected in Watsuji's thinking include Spengler, to whose contrast between "Apollonian" and "Faustian" cultures explicit reference is made (p. 110); several implicit developments of the Toynbeeian theme of challenge and response, such as in the belief that a docile nature in Europe inspires great culture; and unwitting support for what Lynn White, Jr. later made famous as the theory of Christian theology as the root cause of careless exploitation of nature--such as where Watsuji alleges that desert climates, where monotheism was born, have led mankind into making itself an opponent of nature (p. 46). (See White, 1967.)

But the most fertile opportunity for connecting Watsuji's thought with other, related ideas was completely missed--not only by Watsuji but also by the author of that other related scheme of thought, the outspoken American environmental determinist Ellsworth Huntington. This omission seems all the more remarkable in view of the fact that Huntington visited Japan in 1923; was escorted around the country by a Japanese teacher of English, Mr. Tsuyusaki, who had translated Huntington's textbook Asia into Japanese; and took eagerly to an appreciation of Japanese culture--its age-old characteristics as well as its more recent reflections of western technology (Huntington, 1925; Martin, 1973). Of course, we

must allow that Huntington had no access to Watsuji's work in English, he never mastered Japanese, and Watsuji himself had not written on geographical themes by 1923.

Huntington's scheme of explanation for place-to-place differences in culture centered on his interpretation of the importance of the mid-latitude cyclonic storm, which every few days brings changes in many atmospheric variables, and stimulates the energetic and creative culture of modern western civilization. In this emphasis on short-cycle changes, and also in his other work on long-range climatic changes, Huntington's Darwinian-influenced approach to environmental causation theory represented the largest step forward in this area of thought since the time of Hippocrates, the first great environmental causationist in ancient times.

In the case of Japan, Huntington remarked on the greater prevalence of cyclonic storms here, than in any other part of Asia, as causing an energetic and adaptive character. (Huntington, 1924, p. 239) Only the hot summer weather, which wilts strength, prevents the Japanese climate from qualifying in the highest category of energy-producing climates. Huntington summarizes the effects of the climate here by noting that the Japanese people "fail to rise to European standards in orderliness, precision, and mechanical accuracy, although rising above the European standards in courtesy, love of beauty, and social responsiveness." (Huntington, 1925, p. 70) (One must wonder how he would write today, in view of Japanese superiority in such areas as camera and electronic technology, automobile design, and high-speed rail travel.) Elsewhere, Huntington stresses the great adaptability in Japanese culture.

Huntington's approach considerably outdoes Watsuji's in explaining European culture. Far from the docility of the Greek climate being responsible for producing ambition and creativity, the cause is found in the relatively gentle southern limit of the stimulating cyclonic storm belt. What is docile about the Greek climate is that its stimulation is moderate and its winters very mild compared to those farther north; but when Europeans devised ways of coping with the more severe northerly winters--such as glass windows, chimneys, and so forth--the greater stimulation of the center of the cyclonic storm belt could be experienced comfortably, producing even greater achievements; and also certain disadvantages as well, such as increased incidence of circulatory diseases. (Huntington, 1924)

To be comprehensive in analyzing the man and his ideas, it should be noted that Watsuji was known for his right-wing politics, and lent some support to the militarists who devised Japanese participation in World War II.* It is also sadly true that Martin Heidegger once said some good words on behalf of the early efforts of Adolf Hitler--although one cannot therefore characterize phenomenology as politically reactionary, since its modern founder Husserl never took such a stance, and in France Merleau-Ponty leaned towards Marxism. In addition one should recall that Huntington, although moderate politically and never even close to Nazism, did display a measure of racism in his genetic-determinist theory, the weakest portion of his whole corpus of thought. A scholar is obliged to treat all the thought of a particular thinker as a unity, and in a

* (Reischauer, 1980)

sense it is; yet it is also true that all thinkers make errors, and part of their work may fail miserably while another succeeds gloriously. In recent writings I have suggested that environmental determinism is by no means a necessarily reactionary philosophy, but can be applied in many ways towards the development of a politically progressive world view--as, for example, by ceasing to credit or blame socialistic or individualistic systems of thought, but rather natural influences, for the performance of a given politico-economic system. Thus we can see collectivism as a response to relatively scarce resources, and individualism as a reflection of abundant resources or a stimulating climate, or both. (Chappell, 1980, 1981) Earlier, I have written that apparent ethnocentrism towards Third-World peoples is less dominant in Huntington's scheme of thought than commonly supposed, and that a revitalized environmental causation theory can be made more reasonably toward the Third World than can competing theories. (Chappell, 1968, 1972, 1975) Despite his personal political views, it seems likely that Watsuji's environmentalist theories can also be interpreted in progressive ways.

I would make this claim in particular for what appears to me to be the most intellectually stimulating portion of Watsuji's thought: those final sections of A Climate in which he discusses Japanese culture in relation to western ideas. Here we find that even in the relatively ambitious and progressive culture of Japan, the general global dichotomy between East and West prevails: in Japan as in the rest of the generally collectivized East, group consciousness is primary, and "anything disadvantageous to the livelihood of the group restrict[s] the actions of the individual in the form of a taboo." (Watsuji, 1961, p. 150) Watsuji develops in detail the theme of the house, its interior spatial arrangement and its relation to the rest of the world, and finds that in Europe, the individual's room is the most important unit, whereas in less individualistic Japan, it is the house as a whole. (p. 146) What Nakamura tells us about Watsuji's system of ethics reinforces this view of Japan as a nation where individual needs are subsumed beneath those of the group. (Britannica, 1974, v. 10)

Concluding this all-too-brief survey of the geographical theory of Watsuji Tetsuro, I leave two primary hopes: first, that others will do more to develop the themes he introduced and to refine our appreciation of his writings, thus leading to a more truly internationalized kind of environmental causation theory; and second, that his understanding of phenomenological philosophy will help lead us in the West to a more accurate application of this kind of philosophy to geographical theory.

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VERSATILE WHITTLESEY: INFLUENCES ON AND FROM A SISYPHEAN SYNTHESIZER¹

by

Peter H. Nash

Younger geographers, attempting to understand the evolution of recent geographic thought, rarely encounter the name of Derwent Stainthorpe Whittlesey (born 1890; died 1956). Yet, during his lifetime, "Whit" was considered one of the "stars" in our discipline. Since his death almost a quarter century ago, his versatile contributions have faded from references until the detailed scrutiny of one of his concepts in a recent essay.² Little has been recorded about his impact on geography and geographic education.³

Whit was the sole remaining geographer at Harvard and passed away just prior to his retirement. Subsequently geographic education and research were "phased out" at Harvard University. Rather than looking at the total ethos of the situation, some observers placed the blame for the demise on Whit. They felt it was caused by him, owing to reactions to his selection of a lifestyle which differed from that of his colleagues. Apparently Whit was not disturbed by personal criticisms. He was a true gentleman, did not speak ill of others, and particularly respected those who loved geography. He was a snob only with reference to poseurs. Few who knew him will ever forget him!

Derwent Whittlesey was a profound scholar, prolific writer, and a peripatetic teacher. He was influenced by many great thinkers in geography and history, especially at the University of Chicago, and he in turn had a strong impact on many geographers who are among the most perceptive teachers today. Whit's teaching was "relevant", long before that word achieved widespread popularity. And his thinking was "futuristic" many years prior to the time when some geographers would embrace "future studies" as a valid area of concentration and expertise.

Whit would have welcomed the use of three Greek immortals to illustrate the evolution of his world views and the perceptive variations in his approaches to contemplating hierarchies of environments, where the present was always overshadowed by the relics of the past and the potentialities of the alternative futures. These three icons are the Titan god Prometheus, the father of technology; capricious sea-god Proteus, the "shapeshifter"; and life-loving Sisyphus, the "rock roller". Each of them illustrates a facet of Whit's attitude and approach, and together they explain some of the discrepancies which disturb some examiners, such as Marvin Mikesell and Preston James.⁴ "Prometheans" emphasize faith in science, control, technology, logic, and prediction; they try to reform and control the environment. "Proteans" focus on changeability and on continual transformation through a merging with the environment. "Sisypheans" recognize the determining effect of the environment, but do NOT seek to control it. Transformation is not merging with nature, but wholeness is achieved within the person; it is a process of self-discovery, self-actualization, and bringing full potentiality to consciousness.

Owing to Whit's Sisyphean predilections, it is not possible to place him with any amount of justification on an Apollonian/Dionysian axis, because he consistently wandered between the two extremes, especially in his teaching. But the "hot"/"cold" contrast may readily be seen in his writings when comparing the Apollonian statements in "The Regional Concept and the Regional Method" in American Geography: Inventory and Prospect with the Dionysian chapters on "Earth Impress on Political Thought" (#17) and "Earmarks of Political Geography" (#18) in The Earth and the State.⁵ The fact that he cannot thus be "pinned down" adds to his stature as a wise geographer.

Perhaps the most widely accepted label for Whittlesey would be that of a "Promethean" geographer. He certainly liked order, control, and prediction. He was infatuated with classifications, as shown by his work on agricultural regions and his enormous efforts to bring forth a classic statement on regions in AGIP.⁶ He struggled with the various categories of single, multiple, and "total" regions, with uniform and nodal regions, with cores and boundaries, with hierarchies, with types of regional consciousness, and even aspects of regional planning.⁷ Whit was well organized in his scholarly activities, and it must have appeared that "structure" was of great importance to him. Thus his "Protean" characteristics must have been of some surprise to those who got to know him better. It is in this sphere of activities, which focused on the "changeability" of man in his habitat where Whit introduced many of his neologisms: "sequent occupance", "ecumene", and even "compage". They were not introduced to establish "order", but to make possible the continued use of specific terms though environmental transformations evolve and persist.

Most appropriately, Whit should be remembered as a "Sisyphean" geographer, who recognized the determining effects of the environment, but had no interest in those who focused on control without taking all necessary parameters into consideration. He was strongly aware of the "wiring defect" that prevents our brains from absorbing several streams of information simultaneously, and acting on them quickly. He thus gave first aid, but not necessarily a cure. Here his personal contacts with his students, especially those doing advanced graduate work, were particularly significant. There were no easy answers, but generally the emphasis was on observation (urban field trips), imagination (historical/urban approach), analysis (regional methods), and broad reflection (historical political geography). A major aspect of Whit's philosophy was that human settlements, like other biotic phenomena, carry within themselves the seed of their own transformation. Waves of occupance, linked to forebears and offsprings, were like internal forces analogous to the multiplication and destruction of living cells. This icon was fused with a geographic sense of self-discovery and self-actualization, yielding a cyclical round, the circle of interlocking opposites, the eternal going and returning. Whittlesey's faith and belief, a Sisyphean synthesis, affected many susceptible to his oral and written influences.⁸

It is regrettable that Whittlesey was known to most geographers by only one aspect of his scientific research, whether on a micro-

geographical or a macrogeographical scale, whether it was in political geography, regional geography of Africa south of the Sahara or Eastern Latin America, urban geography, field methods in agricultural geography, regional analysis and synthesis, or some other focus that attracted his attention. His versatility of knowledge and wide range of interest were recognized by only a few, particularly contributors to the Annals of the Association of American Geographers, a publication which Whit served with devotion and distinction for a period of twelve years from 1930 to 1942.⁹ Artists were surprised at his erudition in the fine arts, and Friday afternoons he could be seen at Symphony Hall rather than in his monastic quarters at Widener Library.¹⁰ At parties he was a welcome guest and at home he was a gracious host, especially when he and his colleagues held their regular "open house" on Saturday afternoons for Harvard College undergraduates.

It is unfortunate that, taking into account the relative obscurity of Whittlesey today, a major recent article focusing on one of the concepts he introduced should attempt to place him in a rather poor light. It is my belief that Marvin Mikesell's "The Rise and Decline of 'Sequent Occupance': A Chapter in the History of American Geography" in Geographies of the Mind is a somewhat unfair attack and should be briefly answered. Having talked with Richard Hartshorne again recently about his epic controversy with Fred Schaefer in relation to "Exceptionalism in Geography", I understand the difficulty of "attacking an attack",¹¹ especially when it is not specifically phrased in personal terms. Also, here the attacked rather than the attacker is no longer with us. Hartshorne explained that it took at least ten pages to clear up each mistake, misunderstanding, misinterpretation, oversight or false conclusion. Even if one were to write a detailed reply as Hartshorne did, it is doubtful that such a statement would be read with much interest. The attack (and some may think this word is too strong owing to the fact that the article is so objectively couched!) must be interpreted as saying "Look! The Chicago School has changed! We have come a long way since Whittlesey exported our ideas from the Midwest to Harvard. Down with S.O.! We now have a better product!" This can be compared to Schaefer's: "Down with Pope Richard I! Via quantification we have a better product! The revolution has started!" These outbursts are not at all unacceptable; they are a part of paradigm articulation, anomaly, crisis, and change. However, it disturbs me that a major figure in recent geographic thought has not only received insufficient recognition, but is also being inappropriately tagged via hindsight.

Mikesell states that sequent occupance probably achieved popularity because it was an analogue model "built in emulation of the erosion cycle and the concepts of succession and climax in plant ecology."¹² He continues that "Sequent occupance seemed also to promise a historical determinism to replace environmental determinism."¹³ Yet Whittlesey, in his 1929 "Sequent Occupance" article, states quite forcefully: "In these phenomena of interruption appears an analogy to the physiographic cycle of erosion, although clearly neither the subject matter nor the operative forces are the same, and the concepts of youth, maturity, and old age, when applied to the dynamic course of human occupance of area, are likely to place it in a false light."¹⁴

This early statement, later writings, and personal conversation convince me completely that the accusation of a transfer of the Davisian conception to human affairs is misguided. It is hoped that Nash's criticism of Mikesell's criticism of Whittlesey's ideas is probably valid, owing to the fact that Mikesell's negative comments are not primarily based on Whittlesey's writings, but on the interpretations of geographers (mostly non-Chicagoans) of what Whittlesey meant, even though it may be assumed many had not read his original statements.

Many teachers and students like to embrace concepts in their simplest way, especially where anthropomorphisms are involved. Not only is it a matter of transferring ideas from the brown to the black lines on topographic maps, but it is the imaging of human characteristics, such as youth, maturity, and old age in relation to abstract concepts. It is inconceivable to me, that a person who was one of the first to alert the North American public to the dangers of Geopolitik and who so deplored the misuse of the concept of Lebensraum, should be tempted to fall himself into a similar trap! And, of course, we cannot hold Whit responsible for oversimplifications and misapplications. Teachers like to teach what is easily understood, and what can be clearly imagined, and this is one of the salient reasons why the Davisian cycle is still being taught in most high schools and many universities today. The grapevine is more powerful than learned articles in professional journals. From the time Whit introduced the concept it was clearly packaged with a "Use With Care!" label. It is widely used today; some use it with caution, some do not; some refer to the concept by its proper brand name; some do not. To speak, as Mikesell does, of the "rise and decline" is a poor analogy.¹⁵ Dissemination took place and it is continuing, even though historical geographers, such as Clark, Ward, and others have developed far superior methods for scholarly analysis and comparisons.¹⁶

Whit's versatility was so truly remarkable because he had a number of systematic as well as regional interests. His interest in cities in general was kindled via his relationship with Raoul Blanchard, particularly while the Grenoble geographer was undertaking his detailed studies of Montreal. Whit's contributions to urban geography increased in his last years, especially as he linked the perceived past with the envisioned future. Without doubt, Ackerman, Ullman, and some of his colleagues in the Harvard Graduate School of Design, had a strong influence on him, and his Promethean feelings at times overshadowed his Sisyphean inclinations. Urban geography to Whittlesey had four elements: City functions; Urban Forms; Locus; and Site. He showed how the forms express the functions, always in terms of the locus and the site. This was the "nub" of Whit's approach. He was, however, not only concerned with the third dimension of the past; he glimpsed into the future. In a popular article he stated: "Over-all planning in urban areas can ameliorate ill effects of planless evolution, provided adequate attention is paid to the alterable but eternal earth factors of location and site."¹⁷ This statement does not require the acceptance of the Davisian assumption that process is implicit in state. It was a simple credo. Perhaps I should terminate with a basic statement I found at the top of a page on his desk shortly after his death, which I have kept as a

memento. I do not know its specific purpose, but it is entitled "Suggestions for Function of Geography". It reads: "Assumed Purpose: To Study the Present in the Light of the Past for the Sake of the Future." *Hon! soit qui mal y pense!*

¹ Paper presented to the Canadian Association of Geographers, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario on May 26, 1978.

² Mikesell, M.W. "The Rise and Decline of 'Sequent Occupance': A Chapter in the History of American Geography". Geographies of the Mind. (Lowenthal, D. and Bowden, M., Editors.) Oxford University Press. 1976. pp. 149-169.

³ I was able to discover only one substantive obituary in a professional journal. cf. Ackerman, Edward A. "Derwent Stainthorpe Whittlesey". Geographical Review. Vol. XLVII. No. 3. July 1957. pp. 443-445. It related much about Whittlesey as a human being, but it does not do full justice to the range of his scholarly accomplishments and diverse publications. (His closest colleagues at Harvard, Edward Ackerman, Harold Kemp, and Edward Ullman have now also passed away.) Also, cf. Nash, Peter H. "Injection of Topophilia Via Historical Geography: Reflections on Harvard's 'The Boston Region' Field Course As Taught by Derwent Whittlesey". Proceedings of the New England - St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society. Association of American Geographers. Vol. VI. October 1976. pp. 59-63.

⁴ cf. Mikesell, M.W. op. cit., esp. pp. 149-152.

⁵ cf. Whittlesey, D. S. "The Regional Concept and the Regional Method". American Geography: Inventory and Prospect. Chapter II. (James, P. E. and Jones, C. F., Editors.) 1954. pp. 19-68. Also: Whittlesey, D. S. The Earth and the State. Henry Holt & C. N.Y. 1944. 618 pp.

⁶ Whit discussed the sixth draft of his revision of his chapter on "Regions" (supra.) on many occasions with faculty and students, and there were several further drafts to follow, on which he worked many weeks.

⁷ Whit taught a well known "Seminar on The Region" at the Harvard Graduate School of Design for many years, a course popular with advanced geography and city planning students. He liked planners, because he felt they would make cities "more manageable intelligently".

⁸ Another important byproduct of Whit's teaching, especially in his undergraduate field course, was the development of topophilia. cf. Nash, Peter H. "Injection of Topophilia Via Historical Geography: Reflections on Harvard's 'The Boston Region' Field Course As Taught by Derwent Whittlesey". op. cit. This paper describes how generations of Harvard students developed a love (topophilia) for Greater Boston via respect for the "third dimension", not the element of plasticity (space), but the

understanding of historical aspects (time), especially "sequent occupance" and its relevant visual evidences. From a volume of trip records and illustrations, the article describes and analyzes the last field course given by Whittlesey in 1956, which was completed under my direction after his death. This volume was presented to the AAG archives last year. Even this very specific account of one particular experience shows Whit's versatility via the variety of his course inputs.

⁹It should be mentioned that Whit's active support assisted Richard Hartshorne in publishing The Nature of Geography, which he edited with much care and enthusiasm. A deep respect evolved between these men. A few years later Whit was elected President of the A.A.G. (1944) and, subsequently, he was further recognized by being selected as the first "Honorary President" in 1954.

¹⁰Whit had a "pair" of Boston Symphony tickets, which he shared with students. I was the fortunate recipient on some occasions, which launched my life-long love affair with that orchestra. Some conversations with Whit also started me thinking about the relationships between geography and music, and I will never forget the humorous discussions about the D scales and D climates, E minor scales and E climates, "Mediterranean" music, and so forth. These Dionysian diversions certainly indicated some of his Sisyphean characteristics.

¹¹In this case, it is not "exceptionalism" but "fickleness of human nature in geography" which is made the focus of discussion. cf. Mikesell, M. W. op. cit., p. 164.

¹²Mikesell, M. W. op. cit. p. 164.

¹³ibid.

¹⁴Whittlesey, Derwent. "Sequent Occupance". Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Vol. XIX. Sept. 1929. p. 165.

¹⁵Mikesell goes so far to suggest a 17-year lifespan, at least as far as the use of "sequent occupance" at the University of Chicago is concerned. Birth: 1939. Peak: 1948. Death: 1956. cf. Mikesell, M. W. op. cit., p. 155.

¹⁶I have pointed out several other concerns in Mikesell's thoughtful essay, but in this context, the above example must suffice.

¹⁷Whittlesey, Derwent. "A Geographer's Approach to Urban Study." The Scientific Monthly. July 1951. p. 42.

GEOGRAPHERS ON FILM: THE FIRST SEVEN YEARS*

by

Maynard Weston Dow

Seven years ago Preston and Eileen James, a film crew and I left the annual meeting (August 1970) at San Francisco for Berkeley to shoot our first film in the series, an interview of Carl O. Sauer. The collection now totals seventy-nine interviews, plus two films that offer a variation on the basic idea. After several years of directing and editing this project, it seems appropriate to review the progress and status of Geographers on Film and to advance some considerations for refining and expanding the concept. (1)

USAGE: Since October 1973, 1183 viewings of the separate film interviews have occurred. (See Tables 1 and 2 plus Fig. 1) Forty-six percent of all user institutions have graduate programs and twenty-four percent offer doctoral degrees in geography: Florida State leads the list, followed by Western Ontario, Denver, Arizona State and Kansas (see Table 3). Individual popularity is reflected in Table 4, with Sauer (121), Hartshorne (79), Berry (61), Harvey (60), Gould (53), Tuan (51), James (49), Broek (44), Zelinsky (43) and White (40) leading the way. Until a more adequate measure is revealed, this list may serve as a barometer of the interest in particular U.S. geographers and their work, since for a relatively small fee, departments may have a limited exposure to some of our colleagues. It is noted, however, that many of the interviews that have received scant attention may be some of the most useful: Burton (15), DeBlij (15) and Beckinsale (5) are cases in point. It should be emphasized that by the very nature of the series, each interview is interesting in itself, although obviously not all pertinent questions and themes can be raised during the basic ten-minute format. (2)

UTILIZATION: The films have been utilized in classes, seminars and programs arranged by department Geography Clubs where presumably the membership is polled to select those geographers that reflect group interest; the most common users are courses on geographic thought. Unfortunately, the interviewed geographer is not always read and discussed prior to viewing and therefore, the film's full potential is not realized. It is insufficient to introduce a film with: "This is Professor X, an innovative geographer, who challenged the traditionalists in the '50's." Without having previously examined individual interpretations and geographic contributions, the experience of observing the person on film is not the same.

Another format that seems to achieve the desired result is to establish a set of themes and to choose those interviews that support major ideas and events. This has been tried successfully at Plymouth and Dartmouth (see Fig. 2). The films are shown as themes are developed and each is followed by discussion; most every interview has several morsels that elude provocative reactions. (3)

*Submitted to the History of Geography Newsletter, November 1977.

Some instructors are using the interviews in their introductory regional and topical courses where students seem to appreciate seeing the author(s) of their text "coming alive." For instance, the Broek and Webb interviews are an interesting pair of films for those in search of insight into the background and principles of the evolution of a text, e. g. A Geography of Mankind. Should discussion of the regional course, in general, arise, the DeBlij interview is most appropriate or the Harvey and Bunge films are stimulating for several uses; they have been tried in Thought and Social Geography courses and each case create an atmosphere where students are eager to review and discuss the many facets of each film.

NEEDS: Presently, a grant of approximately \$2,000 is being sought to provide a copy of each interview for presentation to the Geography Archives at the Smithsonian Institution. There is constant concern for loss through fire as all the films are stored in the writer's office. It is depressing to consider the possibility of the entire collection being destroyed and unavailable for future generations.

Another project includes the transferring (\$425) of eighteen interviews on obsolete 1" TV tape to the more versatile $\frac{1}{2}$ " format. These 1" tapes were produced on the Ampex helical scan video tape recorder (VR series) that is the "Edsel" of the industry. These particular recorders are breaking down and apparently are impossible to repair. One is yet to be found that is operating properly, and information that would lead to locating an Ampex 7600 or compatible model would be welcomed. The 1" TV tapes are of excellent quality and the realization that sometime in the near future these original tapes will lose their playback capability has unfortunate implications.

THE FILMING PROCESS: Most of the interviews have been done at national and regional meetings of the AAG, but individuals who feel that a particular geographer should be added to the collection are encouraged to contact the writer at Plymouth (603-536-1550 extension 213) to make arrangements for filming at their respective institution's TV studio or in the interviewee's office. Kniffen and Bunge were produced in this manner where details were coordinated and suggestions offered concerning the types of questions, shooting hints and other technical aspects. Where, for example, $\frac{1}{2}$ " (EIAJ-1 standard) tape recorders are to be used, the background against which one is filming should be neutral (i.e., a bookcase, bare wall or curtain) and the camera should focus closely (tightly) on the interviewee's head. Once it has been determined that the TV interview should be done, Geographers on Film will pay the cost of converting it to 16mm film (kinescope). (4)

EXPANDING THE SERIES: At a modest scale the series is being expanded to include other modes of presentation. There is a Panel on Political Geography (1971) on 16mm film, and on $\frac{1}{2}$ " (EIAJ-1) TV tapes the following presentations have been recorded: (1) The entire three hour Fred Lukermann Minicourse on "Geography: History and the Philosophy of the Science" at Milwaukee (April 1975), (2) The Robert Beckinsale address (55 minutes) on William Morris Davis at the New England-St. Lawrence Valley Geographical Society regional meeting at New Haven (October 1975), (3) Preston James (27 minutes) on "The Role of the AAG in the Development

of U.S. Geography" (New York City, April 1976) and Richard Hartshorne's (23 minutes) "Reminiscences: Experiences with U.S. Geography" (New York, April 1976).

At present plans are being considered to use the Geographers on Film series and Plymouth State College as a repository for the collection and storage of older films, still photographs and other memorabilia.

Two additional ideas to expand the series merit further consideration, the first of which would be to tape individuals lecturing on one of their special subjects. This concept is borrowed from the eminent historian, Walter Prescott Webb, who produced ninety-four films at the University of Texas in the early 1960's of forty-one historians lecturing on their interpretations of American history. (5) To minimize costs a variation of this format could be tried at our annual meetings where a geographer would be selected to lecture to interested colleagues and the presentation would be taped for posterity. Another project has already been tried and is now being circulated as "Hors D'oeuvres Geographique." It is short segments of nine different interviews spliced together in order to sample a variety of ideas about geography. This film was first shown at Salt Lake City (April 1977) and elicited interest among the viewers.

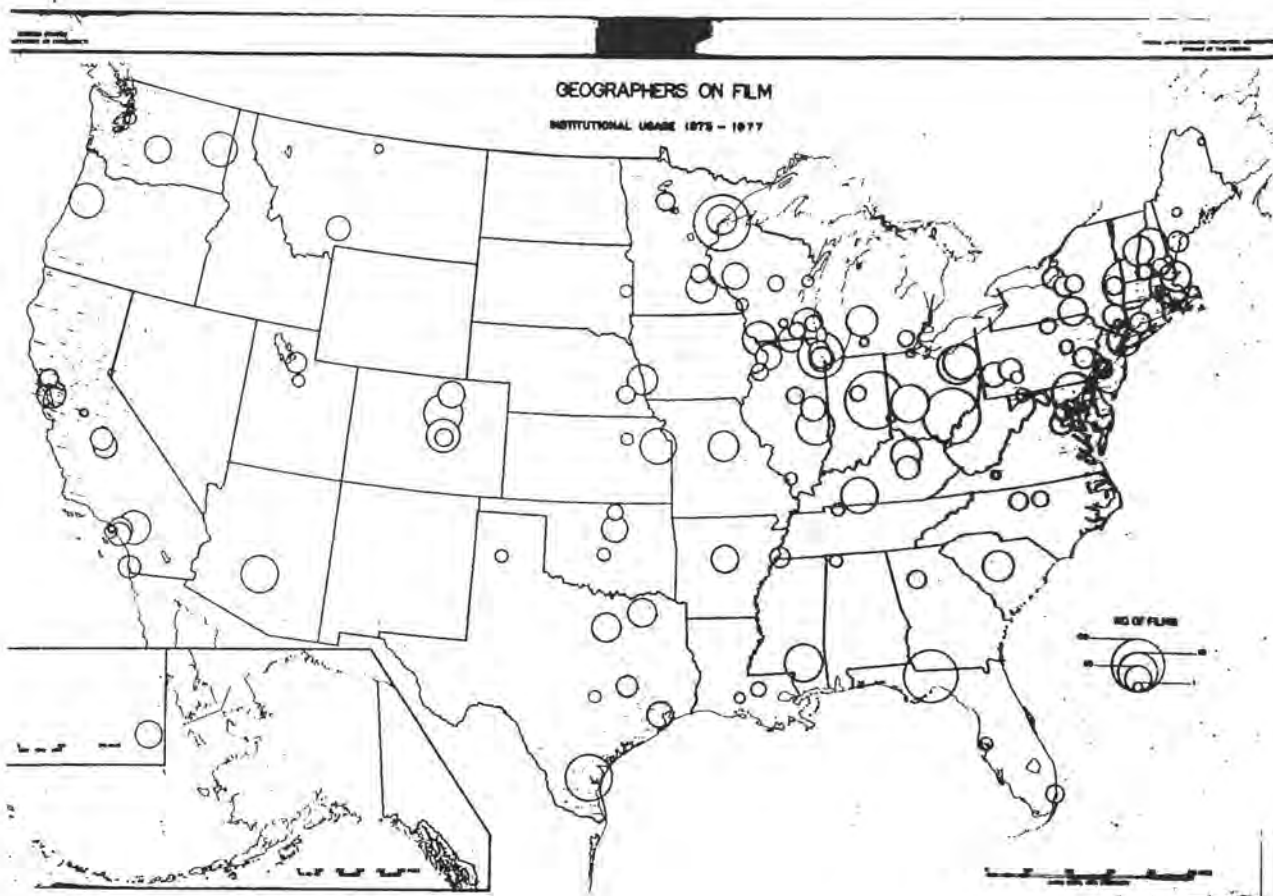
PROBLEMS: Logistics and handling are time-consuming, but in order to limit expenses, my wife, Nancy, processes the film orders and I do the mailing. A student worker assists by splicing films and in other ways. The U.S. and Canadian postal services are not always reliable and we have had some rather bad experiences with overseas shipments. Although the mailing cases are plainly marked "Educational Films", they have been caught up in Customs' bureaucratic red tape several times. This has not been the case with New Zealand (a regular user) where all dealings have been positive.

Inspection and cleaning of the films is the biggest problem as Plymouth does not have a professional automated film inspection machine with which all film collections should be protected and preserved. It is a rather sophisticated piece of equipment and it is expensive (\$6,000) but is badly needed for time, storage and repeated showings cause films to become brittle and crack. An additional television recorder (\$3,075) is needed if individual tapes are to be spliced together according to specific themes.

SUMMARY: Practically every user is tolerant of the attendant problems that result from this low-budget research activity. The series will continue to serve the profession, but should a particular interview fail to meet pedagogical or technical standards, your continued patience, indulgence and good will are appreciated. In this attempt to capture an animated cross-section of contemporary geography, if one occasionally misses the mark, that is the risk. As with all human performance and considering the intended spontaneous nature of these "live" conversations, they are subject to great variations in quality and content.

- (1) See Maynard Weston Dow, "The Oral History of Geography," The Professional Geographer, Vol. XXVI, (November 1974), pp. 430-435 and the pamphlet Geographers on Film (available from the AAG and the writer) for details about the origin and development of the series.
- (2) Descriptions of each interview are found in Geographers on Film, listed in footnote (1) above.
- (3) Should one desire to expand upon the example presented in Fig. 2, the McCarty and Burton films may be complemented with the Garrison and Morrill interviews in order to gain more insight into the Quantitative Revolution.
- (4) The cost of producing the interview at annual meetings, including tape, travel, and processing is currently averaging \$26 per minute of interview. By taping at the individual home location the cost is less.
- (5) Webb and his colleague, Joe B. Frantz, were able to do this with money received from a Ford Foundation grant.

Fig. 1



Tuesdays, 3-5:30 p.m. Selected Geographic Ideas
Plymouth, 1977 Philosophy, Methods, and Personalities
3 Special Seminars 453 Seminar
Rounds 33

Date	Title	Assignment	Film Interviews
Feb. 8	The Dualism of Geography	READ: G.R. Crone, <u>Modern Geographers</u> : London: The Royal Geographical Society, 1951, Chapters II and III, pp. 10-21; Richard Hartshorne, "The Nature of Geography," in Dohrs, <u>et al Outside Readings in Geography</u> , N.Y. Thomas Y. Crowell, 1955, pp. 16-25; Richard Hartshorne, <u>Perspective on the Nature of Geography</u> , Chicago: Rand McNally, 1959, Chapter VII, pp. 65-80. SCAN: Gilbert F. White, "The Mekong River Plan," <u>Scientific American</u> , (April 1963), pp. 49-59.	1. Wilbur Zelinsky 2. Gilbert White
Feb. 15	The Quantitative Revolution	SCAN: Fred K. Schaefer, "Exceptionalism in Geography: A Methodological Examination," <u>Annals of AAG</u> , (1953), pp. 226-249; READ: Ian Burton, "The Quantitative Revolution and Theoretical Geography," <u>The Canadian Geographer</u> , (1963, pp. 151-162.	3. H.H. McCarty 4. Ian Burton
Feb. 22	Current Paradigms	READ: David Harvey, <u>Explanation in Geography</u> London: Edward Arnold, 1969, pp. v-ix, 3-8. Review of D. Harvey's <u>Explanation in Geography</u> by Julian Wolpert, <u>Annals of AAG</u> (March 1971) pp. 180-181; Peter Gould, "The New Geography," <u>Harper's Magazine</u> , (March 1969), pp. 91-100; Raymond E. Crist, "Geography," <u>The Professional Geographer</u> , September (1969), pp. 305-367. John R. Borchert, "Supplementary Report from the Committee on the Profession," <u>AAG Newsletter</u> (June-July 1975), pp. 17-18.	5. David Harvey 6. Peter Gould 7. John Borchert

TABLE 1
VIEWING SUMMARY
October 1973-May 1977

Interviews	United States	Canada	Other Countries ¹	Total
Separate Viewings	1071	107	5	1183
Number of Institutions	142	20	3	162
With undergraduate programs	97	9	1	104
With graduate programs	62	11	2	75
Offers the Master's only	35	1	0	36
Offers doctoral degrees	27	10	0	37

1. Institutions in England, New Zealand, and Papua Territory also have utilized the series.

TABLE 2
CANADIAN INSTITUTIONAL USAGE
October 1973-May 1977

Institution	Films Used	Institution	Films Used
Western Ontario	19	York	5
Carleton	11	Manitoba	4
Laurentian	10	Regina	3
Waterloo	10	Alberta	2
Victoria	9	Lakehead	2
Concordia	8	St. Mary's	2
Calgary	6	Trent	2
Brock	5	Winnipeg	2
Queens	5	Cariboo	1
Toronto	5	Lethbridge	1

TABLE 3
USER INSTITUTIONS THAT AWARD
DOCTORAL DEGREES IN GEOGRAPHY - Oct. 1973-May 1977

Institutions	Films Used	Institutions	Films Used
1. Florida State	34	17. Pittsburgh	7
2. Western Ontario	19	20. Calgary	6
3. Denver	18	21. York	5
4. Arizona State	17	21. Toronto	5
5. Kansas	16	21. Northwestern	5
6. Kent State	15	21. Utah	5
6. Oregon	15	21. Queens	5
8. Columbia	13	21. Texas A + M	5
9. Carleton	11	27. Syracuse	4
9. Kentucky	11	27. Manitoba	4
9. Tennessee	11	27. Minnesota	4
12. U.C. Berkeley	10	27. Nebraska	3
12. Waterloo	10	31. Maryland	2
14. Northern Colorado	9	32. Oklahoma	2
14. Oklahoma State	9	32. Washington	2
14. Victoria	9	32. Alberta	2
17. Chicago	7	35. Wisconsin-Madison	1
17. Illinois	7	35. Clark	1

TABLE 4
GEOGRAPHERS ON FILM

Individual Usage and Popularity - 1973-1977*

Interviewee	Showings	Interviewee	Showings
Sauer	121	Jones	9
Hartshorne	79	Kollmorgen	9
Berry	61	Patton	9
Harvey	60	Nystrom	9
Gould	53	Warntz	8
Tuan	51	Thomas	7
James	49	Pol. Geog. Panel	6
Broek	44	Peet	6
Zelinsky	43	Parsons	6
White	40	Palm	6
Meinig	34	Murphey	6
Garrison	32	Kohn	6
Morrill	30	Beckinsale	5
Harris	29	Burrill	5
Robinson	25	Fairchild	5
Lukermann	25	Hammond	5
Rose	24	Pearcy	5
Taaffe	23	Colby	4
Ullman	23	Crist	4
Clark	22	Deskings	4
McCarty	21	Kniffen	4
Spencer	21	Blaut	3
Carter	20	Hewes	3
Hart	18	Prunty	3
Leighly	18	Raup	3
Mikesell	18	Webb	3
Mayer	16	West	3
Burton	15	Borchert	3
DeBliz	15	Helburn	2
King	14	Hill	2
Wagner	12	Pattison	2
Espenshade	10	Price	2
Hudson	19	Mather	1

*The interviews that have been in circulation for a relatively short period may reflect an inaccurate view of their popularity in this listing.

THE WHITNEY SURVEY:
A GEOGRAPHICAL EXPLORATION OF CALIFORNIA, 1860-74¹

by

Robert H. Block

Introduction

A decade after the Gold Rush of 1849 the political and business leaders of California decided to sponsor an ordered and systematic inventory of the State's natural resources. It was the expectation of many Californians that new deposits of precious minerals would be discovered somewhere in the previously unsurveyed portions of their domain. It was generally assumed that the exploitation of these hypothetical deposits would bring about a return to the boom period of the past decade and rejuvenate California's sagging economy. The parties involved in this movement agreed that a reliable inventory could only be achieved by means of a thorough scientific survey conducted by objective professionals. Although segments of California had been investigated during the 1850's by the U.S. Army Topographical Engineers, the Coast Survey and the Pacific Railroad Survey, each of these efforts was in the form of a preliminary reconnaissance and not comprehensive in terms of territory covered or scientific objectives. A number of independent reports had also been prepared by naturalists and geologists working in the State, but they covered even more limited areas and were often superficial studies of very complex phenomena. Therefore, the Legislature began looking for a qualified individual who could direct a large-scale scientific survey which would be sponsored by the State. After considering a number of applicants who were endorsed by interested political factions, the Legislature eventually went to the ranks of the eastern scientific establishment and chose Josiah Dwight Whitney to be its new State Geologist as well as the organizer of a California State Geological Survey. Whitney was a natural selection for the position: he had extensive scientific and political connections, he was the author of a standard text on American mineralogy, and he had an impressive record as a geologist associated with field surveys in New Hampshire, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois. In its official act of April 21, 1860, the Legislature directed him "With the aid of such assistants as he may appoint, to make an accurate and complete Geological Survey of the State, and to furnish, in this Report of the same, proper maps and diagrams thereof, with a full and scientific description of its rocks, fossils, soils, and minerals, and of its botanical and zoological productions, together with specimens of the same."² Whitney accepted his appointment, hired the necessary assistants and then devoted his considerable energies to the fulfillment of this scientific commission.

The next fourteen years produced a record of significant accomplishment mixed with occasional failure, but a record which far surpassed anything that had been achieved before in the history of American field surveys. During this period Whitney and his associates made important contributions, both on a collective and an individual basis, to the expansion of nineteenth-century scientific knowledge. Between 1860 and 1874 they literally climbed "up and down California" discovering,

collecting, analyzing and describing the vast array of environmental phenomena. In most instances they were the first scientists, and often the first whitemen, to visit the various regions of the State. The close relationships maintained by these men with the national scientific community ensured that the results of their field work could be communicated to receptive audiences at the leading research institutions located at Washington, New York, Cambridge and New Haven where they would be considered expeditiously for publication in appropriate forums. Through this interchange they were able to obtain the opinions and the collaboration of the Nation's most eminent scientists, which greatly enhanced the stature of their accomplishments in the field. Their field activities also produced methodologies and working procedures which were among the most advanced of that era. The precedents set by the Whitney Survey established new standards for the science of field reconnaissance. In many respects, this became a prototype for the development and operation of the subsequent Federal Surveys of Wheeler, Powell, Hayden and King which were to follow closely on the heels of Whitney and his men.

From its inception the fundamental nature of the Survey was intended to be geological. This remained true throughout its working lifetime, but the scope of its operations constantly expanded during this time as Whitney took full advantage of the scientific latitude allowed him under the terms of the Legislature's enabling act. The operation soon became broadly diversified and took on the character of a scientific reconnaissance in the universal sense. Whitney gathered together a corps of assistants which included specialists in cartography, topography, botany, zoology, paleontology, ornithology, general surveying, mountaineering and exploration in addition to the primary skills of geology and mineralogy. This extremely talented group of young men included assistants such as Clarence King and Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen, who went on to carve out distinguished individual careers in the earth sciences, even surpassing that of their leader Josiah Dwight Whitney. The names of King, Richthofen, Brewer, Hoffmann, Gardner, Gabb, Averill, Cooper, Blake and others of the Survey were applied to many of their field discoveries and can be found today gracing mineral samples, botanical specimens, and high mountain peaks. Mount Whitney, undoubtedly the most renowned example of this sort, was discovered by members of the Survey who later scaled the peak, measured it barometrically and named it after their chief.

The diversity of interests pursued and investigated by these specialists was reflected in the publications that grew out of the Survey. They included topics ranging from a scientific treatise on the fossil deposits found along the Pacific Slope and literary essays on mountaineering in the High Sierras to a monograph on the volcanic history of the Southern Cascades and a guide extolling the natural wonders of Yosemite Valley. The official publications consisted of lengthy volumes on geology, botany, paleontology, ornithology and barometric hypsometry. Reports were issued on Carboniferous, Jurassic, Triassic and Cretaceous fossils which, allied with their investigations of major geological formations in California, provided important new evidence and insight into the earth history of the Pacific Coast. Whitney's Topographical Section utilized much of this information in the preparation of a series of sophisticated maps which encompassed the State systematically for the first time. The wide-ranging scope of these activities, all concerned

primarily with the configuration and composition of the California landscape, gave the Survey a catholic scientific nature quite similar to that which characterizes the discipline of geography.

Purpose

The purpose of this doctoral dissertation will be to substantiate the hypothesis that the Whitney Survey was a classic episode in geographical exploration and field reconnaissance with ramifications which were influential in the historical development of earth science studies and landscape analysis during the formative years of the late nineteenth century. The study will focus primarily on the regional significance of the Survey's work in California, but it will also consider these activities in a national context as representing an important chapter in the scientific exploration of the West. Its role as a descendant of earlier state surveys and as a prototype for the great Federal field surveys will be fully analyzed. The specific operations of the Survey will be reconstructed from historical records and critically evaluated. This analysis will begin with the events which led to its inception in 1860 and will conclude with its official demise fourteen years later.

An important element of the study is the Survey's intellectual relationship with the nineteenth-century scientific community. This will be analyzed by considering the individual membership of the Survey and then tracing the network of professional associations established by them. It promises to be a rewarding search since the episode involved a number of distinguished individuals including Louis Agassiz, Spencer Baird, Joseph Henry, Asa Gray, George Engelmann, Benjamin Silliman, Jr., James Dwight Dana, Raphael Pumpelly, George Davidson, Frederick Law Olmsted, John Muir and William Morris Davis. The roles played by these personalities in the history of the Survey will be reviewed as will the contribution of their respective institutions, such as Harvard, Yale and the Smithsonian. Biographical information will be incorporated into the dissertation as a means of developing perspective. Since some of these individuals, such as Richthofen and Davis, were seminal figures in the history of geography it may be possible to use this material as a method of revealing what relationship if any existed between the Whitney Survey and the development of geography as a formal scientific discipline in the late nineteenth century.

The regional significance of the Survey will, of course, be a central theme of the study. This aspect will be prefaced by an evaluation of the geographical information about California which existed before Whitney sent his men into the field. What types of maps were available in 1860 and how accurate were they? What kinds of scientists had worked in California before and in which areas? How sophisticated were prior field reports? What was the variation from area to area in terms of accurate information that had been compiled previously about the California environment? Which lineaments of the State's geography were precisely recorded and which were poorly or imperfectly understood? All of these are questions which will be explored and, hopefully, answered in the course of this study. This approach should also establish a comparative framework for evaluating the achievements of the Whitney Survey.

The motivations behind the organization of the Whitney Survey are issues which must also be considered, especially in respect to accomplishments that were ultimately realized. Exactly what were the expectations of California's civic and business leaders? How did their views of science correspond or conflict with those of their State Geologist whose own scientific philosophy seems to have been clearly reflected in the character of his Survey? What outside pressures existed which may have influenced the development of the Survey through the actions of its leaders?

The environmental consequences generated by the work of the Survey should reveal much about its regional significance. Did their reports and maps result in any long-term consequences which affected the future development of California: How were resources such as timber, petroleum and mineral deposits investigated by the scientists and what were the practical ramifications of their conclusions? Did their work foster exploitation of particular resources and, perhaps, the conservation of others? Insight into the conservation issue might be gained by studying the relationship to the Survey of other organizations such as the Yosemite Valley Commission. In the case of Yosemite, it had been surveyed and mapped by some of Whitney's assistants at the urging of Frederick Law Olmsted. Members of the Survey also served on the Yosemite Valley Commission with Olmsted and John Muir. This situation, for example, raises some interesting questions about the influence of the Whitney Survey on the conservation movement in California.

There are obviously many aspects to a study of the Whitney Survey. It will be the intent of this dissertation to focus on the central theme of geographical exploration and field reconnaissance, but related issues will be incorporated into the account when they are relevant and contribute to a broader historical-geographical perspective. With this condition in mind, certain research limits will be established which will keep the study from becoming unmanageable. It is hoped that the resulting dissertation will be a worthwhile contribution to the field of historical-geographical research.

Research

The dissertation research will require extensive use of manuscript collections. The author has recently been working with some of the more important collections, such as the Whitney Family Papers and the William H. Brewer Papers, both located at the Sterling Library of Yale University. He has also examined pertinent material collected at the Smithsonian Institution Archives, the National Museum of Natural History and the National Archives. Among the latter group, the Smithsonian Institution Archives have yielded a wealth of information on the relationship between the Whitney Survey and the national scientific community. The author is now preparing to resume his work at the Huntington Library in order to complete his investigation of the Clarence King Papers. Copies of Baron von Richthofen's correspondence with J.D. Whitney in California have been obtained on microfilm from the archives of the Deutsche Staats Bibliothek in Berlin.

Research in California, which so far has been confined to the Huntington Library, will eventually center on the State Archives in Sacramento and on the Bancroft Library in Berkeley. The State Archives can be expected to provide official correspondence concerning funding, administration and related matters of the Whitney Survey. The Bancroft Library has a collection of Josiah Dwight Whitney Papers which deal specifically with his work on the Survey and, presumably, with his role in such matters as the Yosemite Valley Commission and the California Academy of Sciences. This collection also contains field reports and letters from assistants such as Brewer and King. The George Davidson Papers at the Bancroft Library contain correspondence from Richthofen and Whitney that may be relevant. It is anticipated that other sources will undoubtedly develop as the research progresses.

One possible source of information might be the California Division of Mines and Geology. This is the contemporary version of a state geological survey, and it is the lineal descendant of Whitney's organization. The author has been in contact with geologists in the Division's local field offices who have expressed interest in the dissertation topic. They have furnished names of individuals connected with the Division who might be of further assistance. The response received thus far from these individuals indicates that relevant material is probably located at the Division's headquarters in Sacramento and at its former headquarters in the Ferry Building of San Francisco.

In addition to manuscript material, the primary publications which resulted from the Survey's activities will be reviewed. The corpus of this material is the reports on geology, botany, paleontology, ornithology and barometric hypsometry which were published in a half dozen large volumes. These were supplemented by various addresses and progress reports that the State of California published in pamphlet form. Whitney and some of his associates also wrote accounts of their California experiences for national publications such as The North American Review and the Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Sources of this sort will be analyzed during a review of relevant literature related to the Whitney Survey.

Although surprisingly little has been published in the way of secondary accounts of the Survey, the most important work in this genre is William H. Brewer's Up and Down California in 1860-1864 (1930). The Brewer volume is actually a collection of letters written to friends and relatives while he was in California. They were edited by Francis P. Farquhar, who has also written a number of short pieces that deal with the Survey's work in the High Sierra. These appear in books such as Farquhar's History of the Sierra Nevada (1965). But the Brewer book provides especially valuable insight into the operation of the Survey since he was Whitney's chief assistant for nearly four years. His letters give a vivid account of the many difficulties and problems encountered in the field. Another eyewitness account was compiled by Clarence King in his Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada (1872). This covers King's personal climbing experiences while he was with the Survey and working in California's eastern cordillera. It is a mountaineering classic and touches on many pertinent themes such as the discovery of Mt. Whitney.

Biographical information on Whitney can be found in Edwin Tenney Brewster's Life and Letters of Josiah Dwight Whitney (1909). This contains extracts from some of the letters written by Whitney while he was in California. Brewster's work can be very helpful, but it is an extremely biased study which invariably favors Whitney and does not attempt to present a balanced view of his personal character or of his actions. Biographical information on one of Whitney's principal assistants can be found in Thurman Wilkins' Clarence King (1958). Information on other members of the Survey exists in published memoirs and obituaries. Biographical material on Richthofen is available in German.

Interpretive historical material exists in a limited amount. William H. Goetzmann provides a good introduction to the work of the Whitney Survey in his Exploration and Empire: The Explorer and the Scientist in the Winning of the American West (1966). Goetzmann's study is particularly relevant because it places the episode in a national context of continental exploration. In reply to a letter written by the author, Professor Goetzmann expressed his interest and offered a favorable opinion in regard to the proposed dissertation topic. Other interpretations of the Whitney Survey can be found in an assortment of journal articles. Perhaps the most comprehensive is Gerald D. Nash's "The Conflict Between Pure and Applied Science in Nineteenth-Century Public Policy: The California State Geological Survey," Isis (June, 1963), which provides a synopsis of the Survey's activities while analysing State administrative history. The administrative aspect has also been studied by Charlotte P. Holton in "The Whitney Geological Survey: Its Conflict With the California Legislature," Journal of the West (April, 1969). An introduction to the Survey's cartographic work is included in Charles W. Jennings' "State Geologic Maps of California: A Brief History," Geology of Northern California (1966). A chronological framework for geological surveying in California is established by Gordon B. Oakeshott in "Origin and Development of the State Geological Surveys," Journal of the West (January, 1971).

Conclusion

The Whitney Survey has never been studied comprehensively in a critical manner. Certain isolated aspects of its history have attracted attention, but the complete episode has not received the consideration it so obviously merits. The dissertation will serve to rectify this situation by according the subject proper scholarly treatment. Since geographical themes were so implicit in the very nature of the Survey's organization and operation, and because such themes were also reflected in its scientific personalities as well as in its intellectual legacies, the dissertation study will follow the general contours of a historical-geographical paradigm.

An essential part of the geographical paradigm is actual field observation and interpretation, a strong tradition which has always been characteristic of geography. It is indeed paradoxical that, although the Whitney Survey epitomized this tradition in nearly every action, the essence of its historical-geographical record is to be found in archives rather than in the natural environment. The author of the

dissertation, as a geographer, would like to uphold the field tradition by integrating a "field perspective" into his research. After all, how can one write about an environmental episode, even in a historical context, without experiencing at least part of that environment? This would seem to be particularly true when the subject involves characters such as Clarence King and John Muir functioning in a High Sierran or a Yosemite Valley locale! Therefore, in the interest of retaining this important vantage point, the author would like to develop a contemporary field perspective of the territory encompassed by the Whitney Survey. This can be achieved in practical terms by retracing, wherever feasible, the exact routes followed by the survey parties and then making comparative observations. A field perspective developed through this procedure could be very important in determining the lasting significance of the Whitney Survey. By combining both archival and field possibilities, the research experience becomes, in the words of Carl O. Sauer, a "journey of discovery" in which:

Locomotion should be slow, the slower the better, and be often interrupted by leisurely halts to sit on vantage points and stop at question marks. Being afoot, sleeping out, sitting about camp in the evening, seeing the land in all its seasons are proper ways to intensify the experience, of developing impression into larger appreciation and judgement.³

The men of the Whitney Survey would have understood and appreciated this sentiment precisely.

1. Dissertation proposal, Department of Geography, University of California, Los Angeles, February 1978.
2. William H. Brewer, Up and Down California in 1860-1864: The Journal of William H. Brewer, (ed. by Francis P. Farquhar, 3rd ed., Berkeley, Los Angeles, London: University of California Press, 1974), x.
3. Carl O. Sauer, "The Education of a Geographer," in Land and Life: A Selection from the Writings of Carl Ortwin Sauer (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1963), 400-401.

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IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOHN K. WRIGHT

by

Allen D. Bushong

"The history of geography as a whole and in its wider bearings has been neglected in America, or at least it has not received the attention which an enthusiast may, perhaps, be permitted to regard as its due." With these words, John K. Wright opened his seminal essay on the subject more than half a century ago.¹ In an emended version of that paper published forty years later, Wright noted or sensed in the interval an increasing interest in the history of geography, as reflected in the greater attention the subject received in teaching and research and in the greater number of papers devoted to the topic at professional meetings. At the same time, Wright saw these gains for the history of geography trifling as compared with the gains in other branches of geographical study. He noted that at the beginning of the 1960s there were only fourteen members of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) who specified the history of geography, of geographical thought, or of geographical exploration among their special fields.²

How has the history of geography fared since Wright's observations? Some of the answers are confirmed or suggested in AAG membership data. The fourteen individuals Wright noted in 1960 who claimed the history of geography (or some variant of it) as their specific subfield of interest compare with 102 in the current (1978) AAG Directory and 117 as of December 31, 1979, an increase of more than eight fold in less than twenty years.³ Historians of geography in 1979 constituted 2.0 per cent of AAG members compared to only 0.69 per cent in 1960.⁴

Historians of geography can take heart in the fact that theirs is the only specialty that has registered an absolute numerical gain in adherents with each successive year in the period 1975-1979 (103, 104, 106, 107, 117). Not one of the other forty-six specialties used by the AAG displays such a pattern. In 1979, nine specialties had fewer adherents than the history of geography (the smallest, oceanography, had 44); thirty-seven exceeded it in number of claimants (the largest, urban geography, had 1,193).⁵ Clearly the increased number of historians of geography render their specialty a less neglected aspect of geography today than in Wright's time, though contemporary enthusiasts holding to Wright's "law of proprietary magnification" doubtless will concur with its author that their specialty deserves still greater attention.⁶

The data in the 1978 Directory afford an opportunity to portray some of the characteristics of the 102 individuals who designated the history of geography as one of their subject specialties, while earlier directories (1956, 1961, 1967, 1970, and 1974) permit some historical perspective on this group. Twenty-seven of the 102 individuals were listed in the 1956 directory, though only seven of them indicated the history of geography among their subject interests. Those among the 102 who claimed this spe-

cialty in subsequent directories have increased from the seven in 1956 to 12 in 1961, 14 in 1967, 31 in 1970, and 49 in 1974. Fifty-six of the 102 (55 per cent) did not indicate the history of geography as one of their interests in their initial listing in an AAG directory. Thus, the typical pattern for the majority of these 102 individuals is that the history of geography became a specialty interest sometime after the onset of their professional careers. This observation is further reinforced when one notes that of the 71 among the 102 who have a Ph.D. degree, only eight (11.2 per cent) wrote their dissertation on a history of geography topic.

The 102 historians of geography completed their highest earned degree in one of 50 schools found among nine countries (Table 1). The dominance of North America and Western Europe is clear. Though 50 schools were the intellectual nurturing grounds, only fifteen of them harbored two or more future historians of geography (Table 2). One-third of the 102 individuals obtained their highest earned degree at one of four institutions: Minnesota, California at Berkeley, Michigan, and Louisiana State. These schools plus the next four schools (Clark, Toronto, Indiana, and Wisconsin at Madison) were where more than half (51 per cent) of them earned their highest degree. Almost two out of three historians of geography (65 per cent) received their highest earned degree at one of the fifteen schools indicated in Table 2.

The age range of the 102 (94 males and 8 females) spans 60 years; the median age is 50. However, only 12 per cent were born before 1918, the oldest in 1898. One-fourth were born after 1945, the youngest in 1958. One-half were born in the 1920s and 1930s. Clearly there is a replacement pool as new adherents join the ranks of the veterans. Perhaps most encouraging of all is the fact that more geographers today than ever before are declaring an interest in the history of geography earlier in their careers, even doing so at the baccalaureate level. For 20 of the 102 listed in the current Directory it is the first time their names have appeared in such directories. Only four of the 20 have the Ph.D. as their highest earned degree, 7 have the M.A., 8 the B.A., and one person has no degree.

To be sure, there are levels of interest in the history of geography among its 102 practitioners, as Directory data also reveal (Table 3). If we assume that each person lists his or her three subject specialties in order of preference, the results reveal that the history of geography for all degree levels (except for the individual with no degree) is most often the second specialty choice, followed by its listing as the third specialty choice.⁷ It is a minority of the 102 (20 individuals) who indicate the history of geography as their primary specialty. These twenty persons, however, are almost half again as many as the total number of historians of geography Wright enumerated in 1960. Whatever the individual levels of interest, there is now a corps of historians of geography of sufficient size to benefit from a formal printed outlet for the diffusion of their information and ideas. This History of Geography Newsletter is that outlet.

All of this surely would have pleased John K. Wright immensely, and were he among us he undoubtedly would be doing something again to advance

the history of geography, a province of the discipline whose diversity he explored and illuminated so effectively in a professional career that spanned nearly half a century. The study of geography's history owes much to his imaginative and graciously rendered scholarship, from which many of today's historians of geography have gained inspiration. Whatever the source of inspiration, the scholarly roads traveled by today's historians of geography are less solitary than in the past for now there are more kindred spirits to share the journey.

TABLE 1

COUNTRIES IN WHICH HISTORIANS OF GEOGRAPHY
EARNED THEIR HIGHEST DEGREE

<u>Country</u>	<u>Number of Schools</u>	<u>Number of Individuals</u>
United States	35	80
United Kingdom	5	6
Canada	2	7
France	2	2
Netherlands	2	2
Austria	1	1
Belgium	1	1
Dominican Re-		
public	1	1
Japan	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	50	101*

* To this total should be added the one individual who had no degree.

Source: AAG Directory (1978)

TABLE 2

SCHOOLS WHERE TWO OR MORE HISTORIANS OF GEOGRAPHY
RECEIVED THEIR HIGHEST EARNED DEGREES

<u>School & Rank</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Ph.D.</u>	<u>M.A.</u>	<u>B.A.</u>
1 Minnesota	11	9	1	1
2 California, Berkeley	8	5	2	1
2 Michigan	8	8		
4 Louisiana State	7	7		
5 Clark	5	5		
5 Toronto	5	3	2	
7 Indiana	4	3	1	
7 Wisconsin, Madison	4	3		1
9 Chicago	2	2		
9 Florida	2	1	1	
9 Kentucky	2		2	
9 London	2	2		
9 Syracuse	2	2		
9 Washington, Seattle	2	2		
9 Western Ontario	2	2		

Source: AAG Directory (1978)

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF AAG MEMBERS SELECTING THE HISTORY OF GEOGRAPHY
AS A SPECIALTY SUBJECT, BY DEGREE AND PRIORITY

<u>Highest Earned</u>		<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>
<u>Degree</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Choice</u>	<u>Choice</u>	<u>Choice</u>
Ph.D.	71	13	30	28
M. A.	22	5	11	6
B. A.	8	1	4	3
None	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	102	20	45	37

Source: AAG Directory (1978)

FOOTNOTES

1. John K. Wright, "A Plea for the History of Geography," Isis, 8 (July, 1926), 477-491.
2. John K. Wright, "A Plea for the History of Geography," in Human Nature in Geography. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1966, 14-15.
3. Association of American Geographers. Directory. Washington: Author, 1978; and "AAG Newsletter," 15 (March 1, 1980), 16.
4. AAG membership was 5,847 at the end of 1979 and 2,004 in 1960. The peak year was 1973 with 7,072 members. "AAG Newsletter," 15 (March 1, 1980), 18.
5. "AAG Newsletter," 15 (March 1, 1980), 16.
6. For an explanation of Wright's "law" see "On Medievalism and Watersheds in the History of American Geography," in Human Nature in Geography, 164.
7. Historical geography and cultural geography are the other specialties most frequently cited by historians of geography. Both of these specialties increased five to six fold in the number of adherents between 1960 and 1979, a rate slightly below the history of geography.

INVITATION TO DIALOGUE

Abstract

by

Anne Buttimer

Fragmentation of knowledge and life milieux, so often associated with specialization in science and planning, provided the broad challenge for a DIALOGUE PROJECT initiated by Anne Buttimer in Sweden during Academic Years 1977-'79. The initial incentive for confronting such a wide ranging set of issues arose from her paper on Values in Geography (1974), translated into Swedish by Professor Torsten Hågerstrand, after which the author was invited as a Fulbright-Hays lecturer to offer a series of seminars in Lund on problems of knowledge and experience. Seventy-five participants from fifteen disciplines participated in this seminar, and foundations were laid for an experientially-grounded approach to the problems of communication across disciplines. The present project was initiated when Anne Buttimer was invited to accept a full time position in Sweden by the Humanistiska Samhällsvetenskapliga Forskningsrad (Council for Humanities and Social Science) in 1977. Financial support for this pilot phase of the Dialogue Project was granted by the Swedish Committee for Future Studies (60,000 S.Kr.) and the Riksbankens Jubileumfond (204,000 S.Kr.). The geography department at the University of Lund continues to provide material and administrative help, with Professor Torsten Hågerstrand as Co-Director.

From the outset it was assumed that the sociology of academic praxis and the language and media normally used in proposing and implementing research tended to impede rather than facilitate communication across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries. Existing power relations with the present organization of academic institutions, too, was seen to prevent rather than promote such sharing of results as could lead to mutual understanding or a comprehensive grasp of life problems. Basic principles for an alternative philosophy of knowledge were proposed at the outset, and alternative approaches to research and its applications were to be explored through a process of dialogue.

Primary sources of inspiration for this dialogue process were indepth TV-recorded interviews with senior and retired professionals who shared insights from reflection on their own career experiences. A series of such interviews around the theme "Dream and Reality" has provided accounts of contexts in which models and theories were developed and applied in a variety of sectors--accounts based on the perceptions and evaluations of key leaders and witnesses of movements in applied science. These interviews were then shown to audiences of various kinds (students, consultants, professionals), their responses recorded, and discussions generated. The aim of these discussions was to evoke awareness of historical and contextual influences on the development of theoretical and applied models in social science, and

simultaneously to elicit critical reflection on the taken-for-granted ideas and praxis within the viewer's own discipline or sector. Through a process of dialogue common denominators of concern over human values emerged. The long term objective is to pursue this method of experientially-grounded reflection in order to discover alternative approaches to both research and planning which would permit better communication among specialists, and help each to place his/her special expertise in a larger horizon of understanding.

Three distinct but interrelated foci of attention have guided the initial 2-year phase of this dialogue project: 1) the history of ideas and praxis, with particular attention to the history of geographic thought, 2) the social and ecological implications of "rationalization" in the planning of selected spheres, and 3) human creativity and its contexts. An Interim Report summarizes the current stage of progress on each of these themes. Through a variety of formal and informal exercises, some guidelines for alternative pedagogical and research directions have emerged. Autobiographically-based reflections on the post World War II era in any one sector tend to encourage similar reflections in others, and doors have been opened for sharing insight across boundaries which conventional research does not easily permit. Just as diversity of disciplinary background tends to encourage more openness among specialized researchers within Sweden, so, too, the presence of "foreign" participants has helped to place the Swedish experience in a cross-cultural frame of reference. The project has established ongoing links with scholars in a wide variety of European countries, with catalysts for the dialogue process already engaged in Israel, Austria, Ireland, and USA. Each of the other countries involved has procured minimal "host" expenses for initiating the dialogue process, but continued work will depend on joint funding, on a cost sharing basis. The U.S. Fulbright-Hays Foundation has offered encouragement and financial support for bi-national types of dialogue, but thus far the project has not accepted any monies of a truly international nature.

Two potentially fruitful avenues for progress with the Dialogue process seem justified:

1. More careful scrutiny of texts, oral and written, toward an experientially-grounded clarification of:
 - a) the sociology and power relations surrounding research and planning, and the forces which impede or facilitate mutual understanding or sharing of results among specialists;
 - b) the relationships between human creativity (practical, speculative, or technical) and its total environment
2. More experimentation with a "dialogue" approach to education at all levels, but particularly to test its efficacy in enriching the training of specialists, whether in academic, managerial, or professional lines.

This next phase of the project demands a highly skilled team to analyse data on hand and to prepare printed and video reports on its results. This team should be primarily based at Clark University where the Project Director will be during the next Academic Year 1979-'80. Work will continue at each of the project sites (Sweden, Austria, Israel, Ireland).

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ARCHIVES

May 25, 1979

To the Editor of the History of Geography Newsletter:

I enclose, for the information of your readers, a listing of materials on the history of geography at the University of Chicago, to be found in the University Archives.

The enclosure includes a cover letter from the listing's author, Albert Tannler, whose expression of welcome - he tells me - should be read as extending to all of your readers.

Notice, please, that collections of papers are now on deposit for three former faculty members: Salisbury, Barrows, and Platt. The Platt papers were received in the summer of 1978, a gift of the late Harriet Platt.

Sincerely,
William D. Pattison

May 14, 1979

Dear Mr. Pattison:

I enclose a document outlining the historical resources of the Geography Department which are in the University Archives. I hope you will find it both useful and interesting.

May I extend best wishes to you, your colleagues, and alumni on the occasion of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the founding of the Geography Department.

Cordially,

Albert M. Tannler
Archives Research Specialist
Special Collections

July 24, 1979

To The Editor of the History of Geography Newsletter:

It is my pleasure to report to your readership that I discovered the following documents yesterday at the house occupied by Robert and Harriet Platt from 1924 to their deaths in 1964 and 1979:

- 1) Class notes in Robert Platt's hand for three courses given by Harlan Barrows--

"Influence of Geography on American History"
(Autumn, 1915)

"Conservation of Natural Resources" (Winter,
1916)

"Geography of Illinois" (Winter, 1917)

- 2) Class notes in Robert Platt's hand for one course given by Walter S. Tower--

"Geography of South America" (Winter, 1917)

To my reading, thus far, these are notes for whole courses, with the exception of Barrows on Illinois, where coverage is limited to the professor's views on the nature of geography.

All of this material will be delivered to the University Archivist, Joseph Regenstein Library, the University of Chicago.

Sincerely,

William D. Pattison

RESOURCES ON THE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
IN THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Manuscript Collections:

1. Faculty Papers:

- a) Salisbury, Rollin D., Papers [1880-1922 5 ft.]
Barrows, Harlan H., Papers [ca. 1910-1930] 7 ft.
Platt, Robert S., Papers [ca. 1920-1964] 10 ft.
- b) Letters and other documents by and about faculty members are often found in the papers of their colleagues and in the files of departments, divisions and University administrative offices. In the case of certain prominent individuals, lists have been prepared locating these documents, and they are on file in the Department of Special Collections.

2. Departmental Records:

Geography Department Papers 0.5 ft.

A small collection of miscellaneous manuscript and print materials covering diverse aspects of the Geography Department's History.

3. University Administrative Records:

- a) University President's Papers 1889 to the present.
[Appointment and Budgetary Files Within the sequences of the President's Papers are restricted for a 50 year period. General Files are restricted for a 25 year period].

- b) University Administrative Boards and Bodies:

Minutes of the Faculty of the Ogden Graduate School of Science, 1892-1929.

Minutes of the Board of Libraries, Laboratories, and Museums, 1896-1909.

4. Related Resources:

Chamberlin, Thomas C., Papers [1880-1924] 10 ft.

Printed Resources:

1. Archival Serials:

- a) President's Reports, 1897-1930 (issued annually):

Contains the Report of the Dean of Ogden Graduate School of Science to the President of the University.

- b) Annual Register, 1892-1930 (issued annually) and Official Publications, 1901-Present (issued regularly):

Contains announcements of course offerings of the Geography Department, faculty and student rosters.

- c) Geography Department Newsletter, Series I: 1919-1930; Series II: 1950-1959.

2. Archival Monographs:

- a) A Half Century of Geography -- What Next? Papers presented at the Alumni Reunion, June 5, 1954. The Department of Geography, 1955.

- b) George L. Collie, and Hiram D. Densmore, Chamberlin and Salisbury: Life Partners in Science Work, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1932.

3. Archival Biographical, Buildings, and General Files:

Miscellaneous printed materials -- press releases, newsclippings, brochures, etc. -- concerning faculty members, the Walker Museum, Rosenwald and Pick Halls, and the Geography Department.

Archival Photographic Collection:

Photographs of individual members, group photographs of the Geography Department, photographs of the Walker Museum, Rosenwald, and Pick Halls.